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**COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH**



**REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER**

1962

# The Report of the Port Medical Officer

## PORT OF GREAT YARMOUTH

### INTRODUCTION.

This report is again compiled in accordance with the revised form and sequence suggested by the Ministry of Health in circular 33/52. Information under sections I, V, VIII, XIV, XV and XVI has not been repeated as there has been no change from the previous report.

### Section I — STAFF

TABLE A.

No change.

### Section II — AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

The following table relates to the year ended 24th March 1962 as figures for ships and tonnage for the calendar year are not available from the Port and Haven Commissioners.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
		By the M.O.H.	By the Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	} 1860	3	166	—
Coastwise		—	46	—
Total	1860	3	212	—

### Section III — CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

#### PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

There was no passenger traffic during the year.

#### CARGO TRAFFIC.

The following table is compiled from information supplied by the Port and Haven Commissioners for the year ended 24th March 1962 and relates to cargo handled at the port whether as imports or exports as separate figures are not available.

Cattle, Ponies, etc. (Head)	4,368
Coal (Tons)	163,629
Groceries (Tons)	25,169
Grain and Seeds (Qtrs.)	299,986
Manures (Tons)	40,158
Meal, etc. (Tons)	14,145
Metals, Scrap Iron, etc. (Tons)	39,897
Miscellaneous Goods	12,003
Paper, Strawboards, Woodpulp, etc. (Tons)	28,299
Petrol, Paraffin, Fuel Oil, etc. (Tons)	499,881
Salt (Tons)	4,242
Stone, Broken Granite, etc. (Tons)	6,186
Wood (Loads)	66,307
Herrings (cured) (Tons)	227
Herrings (uncured) (Crans)	33,873

#### PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Belgium—Antwerp.

Denmark—Fredricksund, Copenhagen.

East Germany—Rostock, Wismar, Strabsund.

West Germany—Hamburg, Bremen.

Finland—Kotka, Abo, Kemi.

Holland—Rotterdam.

Norway—Christiansund, Oslo, Trondheim.

Sweden—Kalmar, Gothenburg, Larvik.

Poland—Stettin.

### **Section IV — INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC**

There was no inland barge traffic during the year.

### **Section V — WATER SUPPLY**

No change.

### **Section VI — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952 - 1961**

#### **1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.**

Information regarding ports in Europe and on the Mediterranean coast is extracted from the World Health Organisation's weekly list, and a copy of this information is forwarded by post to the Waterguard Office of the local Custom House.

## DUSSELDORF SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

After receipt of information regarding a case of smallpox in Dusseldorf, H.M. Customs were alerted and special vigilance was exercised in respect of vessels arriving from the Hook of Holland area. This surveillance was continued up to the time that Dusseldorf was declared free from the disease. During this period, which covered most of January and February, one vessel was boarded after a report had been received that two members of the crew were ill. The vessel was on regular passage between Great Yarmouth and Rotterdam. Both crew members were examined by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and found not to be suffering from smallpox.

### 2. RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district—Although Great Yarmouth is not a radio transmitting port, radio messages can be sent to ships through the Humber or North Foreland transmitting stations.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon—Arrangements for the receipt of radio messages are the same as for those for transmission. The telegraphic address is Portelth, Great Yarmouth.

### 3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO.

Messages are received by telephone from H.M. Inspector of Customs and Excise.

### 4. MOORING STATIONS.

(a) Within the docks—A berth will be made available, its situation being subject to conditions prevailing in the harbour at the time.

(b) Outside the docks—Yarmouth Roads anchorage.

### 5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR :—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than Smallpox—see Section VII).—Accommodation for infectious diseases other than smallpox is available at the Estcourt Hospital, Great Yarmouth.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts—The surveillance and follow-up of contacts would be undertaken by the Port Health Inspector under the direction of the Port Medical Officer.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.—In case of infectious disease, disinfection is carried out by the staff of the local authority. Persons are cleansed and clothing and other articles are disinfected as required under arrangements made by the local authority at the Northgate Hospital.

## **Section VII — SMALLPOX**

(1) Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board, smallpox cases would be admitted to Ipswich Smallpox Hospital.

(2) It has been agreed that Ipswich Ambulance Service would undertake responsibility for all arrangements for transport of smallpox cases to hospital. Applications for transport would be sent to the Resident Medical Officer, St. Helen's Hospital, Ipswich (Telephone number Ipswich 77211). The Ipswich Authority is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available :—

Dr. W. A. Oliver, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

Dr. A. G. Smith, 24 Unthank Road, Norwich.

(4) Specimens for laboratory examination would be sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, London, N.W.9.

## **Section VIII — VENEREAL DISEASE**

No change.

## **Section IX — CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SHIPS**

TABLE D. — Nil.

## **Section X — OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS**

No cases of malaria occurred in ships entering the port.

## **Section XI — MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE**

No ships infected with or suspected for plague arrived at the port.

## **Section XII — MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS**

(1) Ships arriving from foreign ports are examined by the Inspector in the first instance, and if any evidence is found the Rodent Officer is called in to make a more extensive search.

(2) When required, bacteriological and pathological examinations of rodents are carried out on behalf of the authority by the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich. No rodents were sent for examination during the year.

(3) Great Yarmouth is not an “approved port” for “deratting” but when any action is required trapping and poisoning is carried out by the staff of the local authority.

(4) Efforts are made to secure the efficient rat-proofing of ships, and particular attention is paid to foodstores, storerooms, etc.

TABLE E.  
Rodents destroyed during the year :—

Category	Number			Total
	In ships from foreign ports	In coastwise ships and fishing vessels	In docks, quays, wharfs and warehouses	
Black rats	4	—	—	4
Brown rats	—	4	89	93
Species not known	—	—	—	—
Sent for examination	—	—	—	—
Infected with plague	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.  
Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports :—

Great Yarmouth is not an approved port

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

Five rodent control certificates were issued in accordance with Article 3(2)(b) of the Order.

The object of the issue of these certificates is to provide port authorities with the information that coastwise vessels are free or have recently been freed from rats and mice. They are valid for four months from the date of issue.

## Section XIII — INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices :—

Nature and number of inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory notices	*Other notices	
British ships	63	—	1	1 complied with
Foreign ships	149	—	6	6 complied with
British fishing vessels	—	—	—	—
Total	212	—	7	7 complied with

\* Including oral notices

## Section XIV — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

No change.

## Section XV — MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

No change.

## Section XVI — MISCELLANEOUS

No change.

## FOOD INSPECTION

### PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937-1948

During the year imported food regularly arrived from Holland. This comprised canned luncheon meats, canned ham, biscuits, lard, cheese, chocolate, canned fruits and onions. Throughout the year, fresh vegetables regularly arrived and these were found to be of high quality.

Inspection and sampling of imported food were carried out over the year. The samples were submitted to Dr. E. C. Wood, the Public Analyst.

Number of inspections of consignments of imported food : 197.

The following table shows the number of samples obtained and submitted to Dr. Wood for examination, with results of analysis :—

	No. submitted	Result
Biscuits	1	Genuine
Chocolate	1	Genuine
Lard	2	Genuine
Evaporated milk	2	Genuine
Cheese	1	Genuine
Canned raspberries	1	Genuine
*Canned strawberries	1	Unsatisfactory

\*This sample was reported by the Public Analyst as unsatisfactory because the registered trade mark was not printed in full on the label; the sample was also found to contain a permitted added colouring matter and this fact should have been declared on the label together with the other ingredients. These matters were taken up with the Importers who gave a written undertaking to amend the label.